
Walt Stanchfield 33

Notes from Walt Stanchfield's Disney Drawing Classes

“Lines, Lines, Lines”

by Walt Stanchfield

LINES,LINES,LINES

In your business (animation) line is one of the most important elements. With line you can create the wonder, humor and beauty of the Disney style cartoon feature. It all starts with a simple story line and progresses into a very complex and entertaining medium. Line is a very exciting discovery that man (artists) has developed to a phenomenal degree. Drawing in line can be a real adventure and when used skillfully can be a source of adventure for the millions of viewers who see your work on the screen. Line is not just a tracing tool--it is a living, organic thing, capable of describing just about anything you can dream up.

Last week as I was thinking about the next handout, I started to sketch some ideas on line. It soon veered off into some nonsensical ideas that nevertheless seemed playful, so I decided to pass them off as a handout.

There are many kinds of lines.

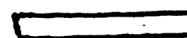
Short ones: 

Long ones: 

Curved lines: 

And some that get off to a good start but then seem to poop out: 

You can do anything with lines. Years ago there was a silly gimmick that went like this:

Do you know what this is?  It's a T.V. screen for people who squint.

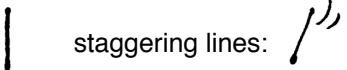


Know what this is?

It's a tornado with the hiccups.

“Lines, Lines, Lines”

There are sturdy lines:



staggering lines:



and lines that just

can't seem to get off the ground:



There are obsequious lines that

always curtsey:



proud lines with chests out:



obese lines:



Normal lines:



stretched lines:



and squashed lines:



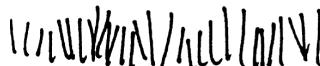
There are graceful lines:



ugly lines:



Gregarious lines:



loners:

Choppy lines:



continuous lines:



They are the shortest distance between two points:



They make music possible (with the help of spaces):



There are dotted lines to sign on:

:.....

A line of bull:



a sky line:



Invisible lines like the equator:

“Lines, Lines, Lines”

There are shore lines:



airlines:



Scrimmage lines:



fishing lines:

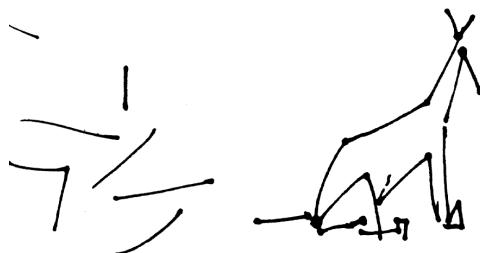


*The moon, prima donna of
the heavens, in its proud
fullness took its place on the
stage of night, and
performed its slow, graceful
way across the dark blue,
speckled sky in a costume of
borrowed light.*

Poetic lines on a page:



and the lines of
old age.



Rebellious lines,

lines that obey,



leftover lines to be thrown away



And if you're a theatre goer--lines in a play:



Lines that soldiers form while
they're on duty,



and last but not least,
lines of wondrous beauty.

Walt